स्रोतों में से किसी एक में विफलता बढ़ी हुई खपत में परिणामित होगी।

**Expansion plans for HPCL Refineries**

6258. SHRI SARDA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) has drawn up various expansion plans for its refineries if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the amount of investments proposed to be made by HPCL during the Eight and Ninth Five year Plan for this purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) and (b) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. has proposal for expansion of its vizag Refinery from 4.5 to 7.5 MMTPA.

HPCL have . also proposal for expansion of MRPL; a joint venture refinery between HPCL and Indian Rayan Industries Limited, *om 3 MMTPA to 6/9 MMTPA.

These proposals are under various stages of processing.

During the Eighth Plan Period, an expenditure of Rs. 551.70 Crores is proposed to be incurred on visakh Refinery expansion and Rs. 365 Crores on mangalore Refinery expansion project, respectively. During the Ninth Plan Period, an additional amount of Rs. 446.56 Crores is expected to be incurred on visakh refinery expansion.

Petrol and Diesel Pumps in Punjab

6259. SHRI IQBAL SINGH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of Petrol and Diesel Pumps in Punjab, as on the 31st march, 1995;

(b) what are the details of aforesaid pumps installed in the State during 1992-94; and

(c) the names of districts of the State where the Petrol and Diesel Pumps would be opened during the next two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) As on 1.4.1995, there were 1001 Retail Outlet dealerships functioning in Punjab.

(b) During the period 1992 to March, 1994 25 Retail Outlet dealerships were commissioned in Punjab.

(c) 34 retail Outlet "dealerships have been included in the RO marketing Plan 1993-96 for the following districts in Punjab:

1. Mritsar
2. Bhatinda
3. Faridpur
4. Fatehgarh Saheb
5. Gurdaspur
6. Jallandhar
7. Kapurthala
8. Ludhiana
?. Mansa
10. Patiala
11. Sangrur

**Southern Gas Grid**

6260. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to» answer to starred Question 323 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 26th April, 1995 and state:

(a) when Government accepted/ approved the concept of Southern Gas Grid;

(b) when the concerned started working on Southern Gas Grid;

(c) by when the project report would be ready;

(d) the number of meetings in the past which took place among the concerned, the details regarding the date of each meeting, the names of the participants

and also the Uganda and the decisions '.taken on each issue;

(e) how much funds Government have spent so far on this project and its report;

(f) how many memoranda Government received on the project from the State Governments/associations/agencies/ individuals in the past; Southern Gas Grid and

(g) the action taken thereon, in each case?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) The concept of the Southern Gas Grid was accepted in principle in August' 92.

(b) and (c) Detailed project reports will be drawn up after the locations and requirements of gas-based plants are firmed up.

(d) Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural gas met the Chief Ministers of the Southern States and their representatives at Bangalore on the 26th March, 1994 to review the project.

(e) The Government has not incured any expenditure on the project so far.

(f) and (g) The recommendation for setting up the Southern Gas Grid has been received from various quarters including the Southern Zonal Council. The State Governments, Association of Industries, etc. have been projecting demands for gas-based plants. The Southern States have commissioned tit& pre-feasibility study to firm up the locations and demands of gas-based units in the Sourthem States.

**Retail Marketing by Foreign Oil Companies**

6261. SHRI V. NARAYANA-SWAMY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to allow foreign-oil companies to do retail marketing on a trial basis;

(b) if so, the details thereof; ., .,,

(c) it is a fact that many foreign oil companies are demanding a role in retail marketing of oil; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government?—

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The import of LPG, SKO, lubricants and lube oil base stocks have been decanalised and private parties including foreign ci! companies are free to import and market these products. There is no proposal at present to allow retail marketing of MS and HSD by foreign oil companies.

**Supply of Gas to Combined Cycle Gas Turbine Project in Rewas/Mandria**

6262. SHRI SATISH PRADHAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Central Electricity Authority is not taking up Rewas/Mardria combined cycle gas turbine project capacity 820 MW in Maharashtra since the availability of gas for the project has not been confirmed by the Department of Petroleum;

(b) if so, what is the status in regard to the project proposal from the Government of Maharashtra and the reaction of Government thereto;

(c) what action is proposed to be taken by Government to indicate availability of gas to facilitate clearance of the said project; and

(d) what are the details of steps being taken to ensure adequate supply of gas for operating gas based projects and new projects proposed in Maharashtra?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (CAPT. SATISH SHARMA): (a) to (d) The gas projected